

Burkina Faso



Population: **18.65 million**
GDP Growth: **5.9%**
GDP/Cap (PPP): **\$1,680**
Ease of Doing Business: **146**

ENERGY SECTOR OVERVIEW

Although the majority of its power currently comes from diesel and HFO plants, Burkina Faso hopes to become a regional powerhouse for solar power. The European Union and the French Development Agency (AFD), both Power Africa partners, are currently constructing a 33 MW utility-scale solar plant in Burkina Faso, the country's first and slated to be the largest solar plant in the Sahel. However, Burkina Faso has little to no experience working with independent power producers, and its national utility SONABEL is vertically integrated. In addition, connecting to the grid in urban centers of Burkina Faso can cost up to \$270 per connection, one of the highest connection charges in sub-Saharan Africa.



GENERATION CAPACITY

- Installed Capacity: 285 MW**
- Diesel and HFO: 253 MW
 - Hydro: 32 MW

- Power Africa New MW to Date**
- Reached Financial Close: N/A



CONNECTIONS

- Current Access Rate: 18%**
- Rural: 1% Urban: 58%
- Households without Power: 3 million**
- Target: Increase national access rate from 18% to 45% in 2020
- Power Africa New Off-Grid Connections: 157,100**

INVESTMENT AND ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

Biggest Issues and Bottlenecks

1. No legal or regulatory framework for independent power producers and limited experience with IPPs
2. National utility SONABEL is not a creditworthy off-taker
3. High cost for new on-grid connections and nascent off-grid sector

Power Africa Interventions

1. Power Africa provides transaction support to developers and off-grid companies seeking to scale up operations across West Africa.



POWER AFRICA'S ENGAGEMENT IN BURKINA FASO

MW GENERATION

In 2017, the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) awarded a grant to Société de Production d'Energie Solaire de Kodéni SAS for a feasibility study for two 17 MW solar photovoltaic plants near the villages of Pá and Kodéni in Burkina Faso. The solar plants are being developed by BioTherm Energy, a Power Africa partner.



Jasandra Nyker, CEO of BioTherm Energy (left) and Lida Fitts, USTDA Sub-Saharan Africa Regional Director (right) sign grant for a solar power feasibility study. (Photo: USTDA)

ABOUT POWER AFRICA

Power Africa is comprised of 12 U.S. Government Agencies, over 140 private companies, and 16 bilateral and multilateral development partners to support sub-Saharan governments by working together to increase the numbers of people with access to power. Power Africa's goal is to achieve 30,000 MW of new generated power and 60 million new connections by 2030 to reach 300 million Africans.

CONTACT US

Post Contact
John Corrao
CorraoJC@state.gov

Coordinator, Power Africa
Andrew M. Herscowitz
powerafrica@usaid.gov

Country Desk Officer
Grace Perkins
gperkins@usaid.gov

www.usaid.gov/powerafrica | www.facebook.com/PowerAfrica

